

Claims

1. A die for forming a honeycomb body, the die comprising a structure provided with:

5 groovy slits formed on a front face thereof, the slits being formed by cell blocks; and

back holes on a back face thereof, each hole being communicatively connected with the slit,

characterized in that the number of the cell blocks per one side of the die is even number.

10 2. A die for forming a honeycomb body according to claim 1, wherein curved portions are formed at four corners on an peripheral portion of the die, and a radius of curvature of the curved portions is 0.5 to 1.5 mm.

3. A die for forming a honeycomb body according to claim 15 1 or 2, wherein the die is made of cemented carbide having high wear resistance.

4. A die for forming a honeycomb body according to claim 3, wherein the cemented carbide is formed by compacting, followed by sintering at high temperature, metal carbide 20 powder of transition metal element series with an iron group metal binder having toughness.

5. A die for forming a honeycomb body according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the back holes are disposed at every one positions of the cell blocks.

25 6. A die for forming a honeycomb body according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein a thickness of the die is 5 to 30  $\mu\text{m}$ .

10/507413

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 SEP 2004

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masayuki NATE et al.

Application No. New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/01031

Filed: September 13, 2004

Docket No.: 121108

For: HONEYCOMB FORMING DIE

**TRANSLATION OF THE AMENDMENTS  
UNDER PCT ARTICLE 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3))**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto is a translation of the amendments of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). The attached translated material replaces the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 13, 2004

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